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# **Vietnam Report**

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## VIETNAM REPORT

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## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### HO CHI MINH CITY COURT SENTENCES TWO MINISTERS

Paris QUE ME in Vietnamese Nov 1980 pp 6, 7

/Article: "In Trials of Red Court, Communists Confirm that All the People Participate in Anticomunist Struggle"/

/Excerpt/ "Organization to take people across the sea. Counterrevolutionary propaganda. Destruction of national unity. Concealment of counterrevolutionary elements and illegal storage of arms." These were the charges made by the Ho Chi Minh City Communist Court against Ministers Nguyen Van Loc and Phan Van Hien. We present below the complete text of two resistance trials from the 10 September 1980 issue of the Communist daily "SAIGON GIAI PHONG."

#### "PUNISHING THOSE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF RELIGION FOR COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY"

Municipal People's Court Sentences Nguyen Van  
Loc to 4 years in prison, Phan Van Hien to 4  
Years and 6 Months

(S.G.G.P.)- "On the morning of 9 September 1980, the Ho Chi Minh City People's Court held an open session to try Nguyen Van Loc for the crimes of 'counterrevolutionary propaganda, concealment of counterrevolutionary elements and illegal storage of arms.'

"Nguyen Thanh Vinh, Justice of the Municipal People's Court, chaired the trial. Tran Thanh Tien, Director of the Social Veteran's Service, and Ton That Quy, a cadre from the Municipal Fatherland Front Committee, sat on the jury. Prosecutor Tran Van Dinh from the People's Procurate and People's Defender Cao Thi Thuong took part in the trial.

"Also attending the trial were minister friends of the accused and hundreds of the clergy and religious followers from the city.

"According to the accusation, Nguyen Van Loc, alias Tien Loc, was born in 1943 in Hanoi and received the title of Minister at the Redemptorist School in August 1972. During the time he was Director of the Thu Duc Redemptorist Seminary, Loc was involved with Hoang Van Hung, half Japanese and originally an air force major of the Japanese fascists, participating in activities of a counterrevolutionary organization 'National Salvation Front' (Hoang Van Hung was sentenced by the Supreme People's



Appeals Court to 15 years in prison for the crime of 'plotting to overthrow the government in July 1979'). Hoang Van Hung met Loc at the Thu Duc Redemptorist Seminary to request he record march music for broadcast when the revolutionary government was overthrown. Although he knew the music had a counterrevolutionary theme and objective, Loc actively assisted Hoang Van Hung to record the music by having students at the seminary sing, using the seminary organ and other equipment for accompaniment and utilized the seminary church and chapel as recording locations. Besides that, Nguyen Van Loc also concealed and assisted Dam, a puppet officer, to avoid reeducation training, and established contacts for counterrevolutionary activity. When Loc's home was examined, public security forces found a revolver and six rounds.

"Charges by the People's Procurate prosecutor contained three crimes by the accused"

Counterrevolutionary propaganda.

Destruction of national unity.

Concealment of counterrevolutionary elements and illegal storage of arms.

"The illegal actions of Nguyen Van Loc were extremely serious, originating from a counterrevolutionary ideology; actively assisting Hoang Van Hung to record music with a counterrevolutionary theme, knowing counterrevolutionaries but not accusing them and hiding and assisting them instead and illegally storing firearms.

"Nguyen Van Loc took advantage of religion and a sacred location for counterrevolutionary activity, acted contrary to the aspirations of the people and destroyed the national unity. With such a serious nature and degree, severe punishment was necessary to serve as an example.

"At the trial, the Chief Justice read a letter from the Municipal Catholic Movement Committee requesting leniency for the illegal actions of Nguyen Van Loc.

"Before the court, Nguyen Van Loc confessed all his crimes. The Municipal People's Court sentenced Nguyen Van Loc to 4 years in prison, stripped him of his voting privileges and right to serve as a candidate for a period of 3 years after the jail sentence and confiscated the weapon and equipment used for counterrevolutionary activity and presented them to the local government for management and use in their work.

"On the afternoon of the same day, the Municipal People's Court tried Phan Van Hien for the crimes of 'organizing to assist people to escape to a foreign country for counterrevolutionary objectives, concealing counterrevolutionary elements and illegally storing arms.'

"Phan Van Hien was born on 8 November 1938 in Quang Tri, a scholar and philosopher who studied for the priesthood in Switzerland for 8 years (from 1963 to 1971) and earned the title of minister in 1966 in Switzerland. Endowed with deep counterrevolutionary intentions, Phan Van Hien has continuously engaged in counterrevolutionary activity. In June 1977--Hien at this time was Deputy Director of the Phuoc Son Seminary in Long Thanh My Village of Thu Duc--taking advantage of the absence of the seminary director, Captain Tien escaped a reeducation camp at Long Giao and intending to engage in counterrevolutionary activity, went to meet Hien who was self-declared as a member of the counterrevolutionary organization. Hien introduced Tien to Thao, a puppet army officer, to organize assistance to those escaping to a foreign country. At this time, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary forces were furiously attacking the

southwestern border of the fatherland and Hien thought that it was an opportunity for overthrowing the revolutionary government. Consequently, Hien actively assisted and organized four trips for counterrevolutionaries to escape the country. Each trip had about 20 individuals and nearly all were puppet officers avoiding reeducation. Aimed at achieving long-term counterrevolutionary designs, in each trip across the border, Hien wrote a letter of introduction to an old acquaintance in Switzerland to assist them in communicating with a group of imperialists in order to train them into lackeys and later return for counterrevolutionary activity.

"In January 1978, Mai Van Toan, a puppet policeman and self-declared member of the counterrevolutionary organization led by Lt. Colonel Hung, came to the seminary to meet Hien to discuss finding Hien's older brother, Phan Van Tri, a former puppet army security captain presently undergoing reeducation, in order to take him into the jungle to engage in counterrevolutionary activity. Hien did not report but concealed Toan.

"Before that, in January 1976, Hien and Minister Ngoc transported seven M-16 rifles to Rach Gia for concealment.

"The People's Procurate Prosecutor concluded that:

Hien played an important role in organizing to assist people escaping the country, mostly army officers from former Saigon; wrote letters of introduction for contact with reactionaries in foreign countries to achieve a plot of resisting the revolutionary government and the people; concealed counterrevolutionaries; and stored arms for use in future counterrevolutionary activity. These were red-handed counter-revolutionary activities of a dangerous and systematic nature.

"Since the day of revolution, a majority of Catholics have and are actively assisting to build and protect the nation. The 112 advancement examples of Catholics within the city prove that the Vietnamese Catholic has confirmed his role in a socialist society. Therefore, religious followers as well as atheists are extremely indignant over every reactionary plot of those taking advantage of religion to act contrary to the rights of the nation and the patriotic Catholic population.

"After hearing out the accused and his defender, the Municipal People's Court decided to sentence Phan Van Hien to 4 years and 6 months in prison, to strip him of his voting privileges and right to serve as a candidate for 3 years after the prison sentence and to confiscate all facilities used in his reactionary work.

"Catholic representatives attending the trial all agreed with the sentence, recognized the humanitarianism and leniency of the new regime and supported respect for freedom of religion but at the same time punishment for those who use religion to act contrary to national interests."

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CSO: 4209/343

## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### PAIR RECEIVE DEATH SENTENCE FOR MURDER

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Nov 80 p 4

[Article by H. B.: "The City Sentencing Council Sentences the Two Defendants Nguyen Duc Da and Nguyen Van Len to Death for the Crime of 'Murder for Counter-Revolutionary Purposes'" ]

[Text] On 8 November, the City Sentencing Council sentenced the two defendants Nguyen Duc Da and Nguyen Van Len to death for the crime of "murder for counter-revolutionary purposes."

Nguyen Duc Da was formerly a senior lieutenant in the puppet police force. Following liberation day, although he received clemency from the people, Nguyen Duc Da obstinately continued to oppose the revolution, oppose the people. He joined the so called "national salvation front," a counter-revolutionary organization. After this reactionary organization was exposed by the people, practically all of its members were arrested and punished; however, Nguyen Duc Da avoided arrest. He continued to conspire with decadent elements to build reactionary organizations at the Western Bus Terminal.

In the space of a few months, Da joined forces with Nguyen Van Len, a former non-commissioned officer in the puppet police force, and a number of other reactionaries. Da and Len made every effort to disrupt order and security and impede the normal operations at the Western Bus Terminal. Their immediate objective was to murder Kieu Giai, the acting director of the bus terminal, because he had made many positive contributions in the work of maintaining order and security, had served the travellers at the bus depot well and had deprived them of a base for their disruptive activities.

On 23 January 1979, Da prepared a weapon and motorized bicycle and presented a plan for killing Kieu Giai; however, because their vehicle was in need of repair, it could not overtake the vehicle of Kieu Giai, consequently, they failed to carry out their plan.

On 12 February 1979, they put into effect another plan to kill Kieu Giai. As Kieu Giai was returning to the terminal, Da ordered his accomplices to follow him and Len, using a pistol, shot Kieu Giai to death.



Hearing the gunfire, local residents and public security forces arrested Nguyen Van Len still holding the weapon he used to commit the crime. Immediately thereafter, Nguyen Duc Da and his accomplices were also arrested. This was an especially serious case: the criminals were persons who owed blood debts to the people and their crime was organized and premeditated and adversely affected security and order, adversely affected the quiet lives of the people. In appeals court criminal verdict number 100/HS-PT dated 17 April 1980, the Court of Appeals of the People's Supreme Court in Ho Chi Minh City sentenced Nguyen Duc Da and Nguyen Van Len to death.

Decision number 1,089/NQ/QHK6 dated 19 September 1980 of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam rejected the petition of Nguyen Duc Da and Nguyen Van Len for a reprieve from the death sentence.

The execution of the two defendants Nguyen Duc Da and Nguyen Van Len was carried out in exact accordance with the law.

7809

CSO: 4209/196

## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### VAN LANG DISTRICT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 May 81 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Thanh Van: "Van Lang Does Well the Work of Political Security and Public Safety and Order"]

[Text] Not so long ago, Van Lang was still a weak district in the province of Lang Son. Taking advantage of this situation, the Chinese reactionaries attempted every which way to sabotage the situation. They actively carried out psychological warfare in combination with military provocations and threats, sent in reconnaissance teams and spies so as to establish contacts with counterrevolutionary elements in the hope of fostering rebellion and rioting and disturb the public peace and order.

Fully apprised of the situation, the standing committee of the district decided to take steps to transform one notch further the ideological awareness and revolutionary action of the military and of the people, thus creating a new posture on the production front and in the protection of the Fatherland's frontiers. First of all, they should be concerned with doing well the job of political security and the job of public safety and order.

The public security organs served as staff for the district committee to organize the conference on promoting the revolutionary tradition of the Party chapter and people of Van Lang. Representatives of all three generations who fought against the French, the Americans and the Chinese aggressors came to the conference to go over the lessons of experience born of the whole process of glorious revolutionary struggle put up by the home district of Hoang Van Thu. Following the conference, the district launched the movement for all the people to protect the security of the Fatherland. A grassroot work team composed of many cadres from the security forces and from various sectors, who have quality and abilities besides experience in the work, and led by the comrade chairman of the district People's Committee went down to the villages and remote hamlets together with the local cadres and people in order to foster the movement. Coordinating their actions with the district forces, the military units stationed in Van Lang also actively participated in the movement. In a short time over 200 people's security cells were formed to make a network of security fighters that includes thousands of young men and women and local people actively engaged in the movement. Benefiting from the all-out assistance and direct participation of the people, the security fighters and youth had discovered together with the compatriots in the hamlets and villages and arrested many Chinese reconnaissance teams as well as

many rascals, bandits, smugglers and shady characters. A number of those who in the past cooperated with the enemy also came out to confess in front of the people.

Thanks to the increased awareness of the people, every sabotage activity of the Chinese reactionaries was discovered and smashed to pieces. The negative phenomena also were reduced. The compatriots belonging to various nationalities believed in the revolutionary line of the Party, they became enthusiastic and actively participated in labor competition and production, in savings and in combat readiness. The frontier villages of Bao Lam and Hanh Thanh, despite the need to live and produce in extremely tense conditions caused daily by the Chinese troops, still boost up production, maintain the political security and public order and safety.

From a cooperativization movement that englobed only 23 percent of the population at the end of 1980, Van Lang is now 89 percent cooperativized. Production expanded, the living standard of the nationalities has been gradually stabilized and improved, and the district is doing well its task of building and protecting the Fatherland, deserving of being a frontline district in the fight against the Chinese aggressors and in the firm protection of the Fatherland's frontiers.

1751

CSO: 4209

## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### POOR RESULTS OF CADRE EVALUATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 May 81 p 3

[Article by Vu Tung: "Existent and Non-Existent Problems"]

[Text] The observation and evaluation of cadres and Party members are based on the criteria and regulations which have been stipulated by the Party, then based on the functions and responsibilities of each person, with the completion of assigned tasks as the main yardstick for measuring the individual's revolutionary spirit and ability. But at a number of base units in the Party organization, especially on the occasion of congresses to elect new committee members or at observation and evaluation time for the Party members, there have been applied too simple evaluation methods. For instance, a cadre A may be presented to appear in the candidate list to a Party echelon but there suddenly arises a rumor to the effect that he "is said to have problems."

This implies that comrade A has some shortcomings or some unclear parts in his personal record. This means that the control committee must carry out some investigations. Frequently the point raised turns out to be nothing important, nothing that contravenes some essential criterion, but by the time the whole thing is cleared up there will have been lost a relatively long amount of time—usually by that time the election will have been over. This does not include some situations where the "problems" raised by some people do not lend themselves to easy investigation and thus will linger for many years in the record of some comrade irrespective of the progressive struggling and contributions of such an individual in the workaday life of the community.

On the other hand, there are cases where the persons involved—for instance, a comrade B—would be speedily passed with the opinion, "No problems in the case of this comrade!"

It is to be understood that such a comrade is good and exhibits no major shortcomings. Normally it is a comrade who has not come into conflict with anyone around, who is in the good grace of everybody, is kind of smooth, and works without major gaffes but does not exhibit any clearcut superiority.

Superficial observations like that do not have a positive effect in the sense that they help the comrade in question understand himself better so as to promote his good points and overcome shortcomings, they do not contribute to a complete and accurate evaluation of the abilities and qualities of the cadres and Party members; in some cases they may even lead to regrettable misunderstanding. The

best criteria for separating a good Party member from a person outside the Party are the vanguard, exemplary quality of one to fulfill one's tasks, the determined spirit of struggle to protect the general line, the goals and policies of the Party, the close link with the masses and the spirit of all-out concern for the people's interests, of concern for the collective interests more than for one's own. In life, anywhere and at any time there is the struggle between the positive and the negative. The positive person will not be liked by some people, who will badmouth and criticize him--this is commonly observed. Self-criticism and criticism in a cell is precisely meant for clarifying the truth, for discriminating between what is right and what is wrong. New and positive factors must therefore be supported and protected.

The experience of those base units which have done well the work of criticism and self-criticism in the Party and the work of mass organization so that they can participate in the criticism and evaluation of the cadres and Party members is that they should propagate as much as possible the criteria for observation and make sure that the masses be consulted in the evaluation process so that the whole thing be done in a truly democratic fashion.

1751

C50: 4209



## ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

### WASTE OF PAPER DEcriED, TIGHTER CONTROLS URGED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Nov 80 p 4

[Saigon's Many Faces column by Thach Tru: "Thrown Away Before Being Used"]

[Text] Last Sunday morning, the family of Thach Tru leisurely strolled to the market to buy one-half kilogram of peanuts to take home to make "dried food" to eat during the week. When he opened the bag and saw that the paper used to pack the peanuts was rather good, Thach Tru took the paper out to examine it. A large piece of paper, it was a roster form for cadres and workers at state agencies with entries for their age, salary, number of children and so forth. Not one word had been written on the form, that is, it had never been used, yet it was being used at the market to wrap products.

This phenomenon has been rather widespread lately. A number of forms used for statistics, inventory work, reports and so forth, forms that are still unused, are, for some unknown reason, "torn to pieces" and thrown away.

Imitating the "Coc Su devils," Thach Tru "felt the turtle shell" one time--it was off line--and then apologized: "Perhaps the price of this paper was somewhat high and this price, just like water, flowed downhill and these pieces--oh, I forgot--these scraps of paper "made themselves invisible" and went on their own to the market!

To be sure, many agencies are aware of this problem. However, there are surely still some that are not exercising tight control. It is suggested that agencies, enterprises and the people urgently "crack down" in order to quickly put an end to the kind of "disappearance" and use of paper as "stuffing" mentioned above.

7809

CSO: 4209/196

## ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

### VIOLATION OF SOCIALIST ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 May 81, p. 3

[Readers Opinions column by Xuan Sinh of Hanoi: "Violation of Socialist Economic Principles"]

[Text] Many companies and stores belonging to the distribution and transportation sectors implement the regimes of management and utilization of money and commodities, combining it with the political and ideological education of the workers and government workers, thus creating faith in the customers.

But there are still many other companies and stores that are lax in the management and distribution of commodities and cash. The Metal and Chemicals Company of Haiphong, for instance, distributed practically all the bicycle chains it produced during the third quarter of 1980 to its own people (213 chains, or 92.6 percent of all the chains it sold during the quarter). The 300 Hanoi table fans it produced also were all sold internally, and the number of cogwheels sold internally amounted to 98.8 percent of the total sold; it is the same thing with the Quan Luc oil ranges which the company decided to sell all 178 produced internally; as for the Sao Vang number 1 priced at 15 dong a piece, the company produced 5,640 of them and sold internally 1,273.

Many cadres and workers in the company request that they be allowed to buy more, and some are allowed to buy two, three chains or tires per quarter. In just the third quarter of 1980, the company has distributed in "butterfly" fashion 661 bicycle tires to its acquaintances, whereas the average sold in a year to each cadre, worker or government worker of Haiphong is 1 tire per 50 persons, 1 table fan per 100 persons, as for the other commodities such as the bicycle chains, cogwheels, etc. no one was sold anything during the whole year of 1980.

Let us hope that the authorities at every echelon investigate the situation.

1751

CSO: 4209

## AGRICULTURE

### PREMIER'S DIRECTIVE SETS CROP PURCHASING GUIDELINES

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 3 Dec 80 p 2

[Article: "Accelerating Production and Mobilizing Grain, Food Products and Agricultural Products in the Provinces of Nam Bo"]

[Text] The Office of the Premier recently issued a directive to the provinces of Nam Bo (former) instructing them to intensify the production and mobilize grain, food products and agricultural products in the coming period.

The directive sets forth the advances made by the provinces of former Nam Bo in the effort to accelerate agricultural production, especially in the Mekong River Delta, which has recorded continuous bumper harvests and increased the output of rice by more than 800,000 tons in 1980 compared to 1979.

In order to meet the needs of the entire country for grain and food products, the need for raw materials for industry and the need for export goods and in order to overcome the shortcomings that exist in the guidance of production, the collection of taxes, the repayment of debts and the controlling of sources of grain and agricultural products through purchases, the directive of the premier directs the attention of the related central sectors and the people's committees of the provinces and cities of Nam Bo to the following several important matters:

1) It is necessary to continue to thoroughly implement at the installation level and expand, in a well coordinated and urgent manner, the implementation of resolution 26-NQ/TW and the decisions of the Council of Ministers on improving distribution and circulation in general, as well as the resolutions of the Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers on the grain policy, in particular, with a view toward accelerating the production and purchasing of grain and food products well, thereby meeting the essential needs of the people and providing raw materials for industry while increasing the sources of export goods.

The spirit and substance of these resolutions must be fully reflected in the formation and implementation of the 1981 state plans for production as well as mobilization, distribution and consumption.

We must tap the spirit of collective ownership of the working people and develop the positive role played by the mass organizations in implementing the line and policies of the party and the plan of the state.

With regard to specific guidance and the organization of implementation, we must do the following:

**Production:** an effort must be made to meet, in a prompt and well coordinated manner, the requirements regarding water conservancy, draft power, petroleum products, fertiliser, insecticide and so forth in conjunction with strengthening and steadily developing the cooperativization movement in the countryside with a view toward developing grain production at a rapid rate by practicing multicropping, increasing yields and expanding the amount of area under the cultivation of rice, especially in the Mekong River Delta; at the same time, we must take positive steps to overcome the difficulties being encountered in harvesting, processing, transportation and marketing in order to further accelerate the production of subsidiary food crops, especially in the provinces of the east and former Zone 6. In the immediate future, we must rapidly and systematically harvest the 1980 10th month rice crop and the various types of subsidiary food crops; at the same time, we must make good preparations in all areas for achieving a major success in the 1981 winter-spring season. On the other hand, a specific plan and measures must be adopted for increasing the investment of labor, capital, materials and technology in order to build and develop specialized farming areas or centralized production areas producing the primary types of crops, including both annual crops (such as tobacco, sugarcane, soybeans, pineapples, bananas, jute, rushes and so forth) and perennial crops (such as rubber, coffee, coconuts and so forth). Full importance must be attached to planning and establishing food product belts and specialized vegetable production areas for the municipalities, large cities and centralized industrial zones, beginning with Ho Chi Minh City, the Bien Hoa industrial complex and the Vung Tao petroleum and natural gas industrial zone.

**Mobilization:** a determined effort must be made to collect all taxes and debts in exact accordance with policies and regulations; we cannot allow taxes and debts to go unpaid and all waivers that are granted must be in accordance with regulations. The various localities must urgently conduct surveys, firmly reassess the amount of area under cultivation and the types of cropland and draw up tax tables based on current law in order to promptly collect taxes during the 1980 10th month season and the 1981 winter-spring season; when the new regulations are in effect, new tax tables will be drawn up and implemented for 1982, beginning with the 1981 10th month season.

**Purchasing:** in 1981, with regard to places that have stable production and with regard to cooperatives and production collectives that have been strengthened, it is necessary to rely upon the purchasing levels assigned by the central level to the provinces to compute the stable obligation of each production unit over the next 5 years in exact accordance with Political Bureau resolution 25-NQ/TV and Council of Ministers' resolution 09-CP concerning the grain policy as well as Council of Ministers' decision number 310-CP concerning the policy on stabilizing the obligation to sell agricultural products to the state. At places where production is still primarily private production and places where production collectives or production solidarity teams have only begun to be built, it is necessary to rely upon the yearly production plan or the production plan for each season to establish purchasing levels and to make purchases by one of the two following ways:



--Purchasing agencies can sign two-way contracts with agricultural cooperatives, production collectives and production solidarity teams and, on this basis, supply materials for production and grain (to installations that specialize in the production of industrial crops that do not have grain or lack grain) in the production process and purchasing agricultural products once they are harvested in accordance with the rate of exchange stipulated by the premier.

--Purchasing organizations can coordinate with supply organizations to make purchases from and sales to producers at negotiated prices and both buy and sell products at high prices that approximate market prices on the basis of the principles of satisfying the interests of the state and producer, providing more benefits to agricultural cooperatives and production collectives than to private producers and providing more benefits to units that have contract relations with the state than units that do not. The State Price Commission and the ministries concerned with purchases will, on the basis of the premier's decision, instruct the people's committees of the provinces and municipalities in how to guide the sectors within their locality in flexibly applying the purchasing and sale price guidelines for each season and each area, district and province. If they wish to make purchases or sales outside the stipulated price framework, provinces and municipalities must seek the opinions of the central level.

Full importance must be attached to the seasonal factor in production as well as in the mobilization of products:

--The concerned central sectors and the people's committees of the provinces and municipalities must, on the basis of the norms of the grain, agricultural product and food product mobilization plans assigned by the premier on a preliminary basis to the provinces and municipalities during the conference held on 1 November 1980 in Ho Chi Minh City, arrange their plans with a view toward virtually completing the agricultural tax collection task and the majority of the grain purchasing task for all of 1981 during the 1980 10th month season and the 1981 winter-spring season (between December 1980 and June 1981); at the same time, they must keep abreast of the production and harvesting of each type industrial crop and other primary agricultural products so that they can purchase the majority of products and commodities in accordance with the established plan.

Toward this end, the supply and purchasing sectors must keep abreast of production and prepare all the necessary materials in order to supply them to farmers at the correct time during the production season and in a manner consistent with the actual requirements at each place. On the other hand, they must keep abreast of the results of production, the harvesting season and the actual capabilities with regard to commodities within each area in order to fully prepare the cash, materials, commodities, packages, scales and storehouses needed to make purchases at the right time in conjunction with deploying stevedores and transportation forces in order to promptly transport products from central purchasing sites to central markets. In the immediate future, we must quickly prepare the conditions needed to accelerate the purchasing of the 10th month rice, subsidiary food crops, industrial crops and agricultural products that are being harvested; at the same time, we must make good preparations for supporting the winter-spring production season as well as the summer-fall season and the next 10th month season.



The above mentioned preparations must be made early and there must be close coordination among the concerned ministries and among these ministries, the people's committees of the provinces and municipalities and the concerned sectors within the locality in order to develop every capability in terms of cash, supplies, commodities, storehouses and means of storage and transportation of both the central and local levels and make them available to the districts and installations in order to provide supplies and make purchases on schedule.

Gaining experience from the recent past, we must strengthen the cost accounting system and closely manage the storage, protection, distribution and use of the commodities, supplies and cash sent to the districts and purchasing installations; by means of regulations and policies and by strengthening the management organization, we must conduct good inventory and control work and encourage the practice of cost accounting at the basic units, thereby limiting spoilage and losses to the lowest possible level; at the same time, we must harshly deal with every act of misappropriation, conspiracy, abuse of authority, theft, speculation and hoarding involving the commodities and supplies of the state. It is necessary to correctly implement the regulation that every purchasing organization be given the authority to manage and distribute under the plan those supplies and commodities that it has been given the authority to purchase. We must insure that the supplies and commodities of the state are delivered to installations in order to make purchases are truly delivered to producers; the state must control a quantity of products commensurate with the quantity of supplies, commodities and cash provided by it. We must closely guide purchases and sales at negotiated prices in terms of the rate of exchange between the state and producers as well as in terms of the management of cash and finances within the agencies of the state, within the state-operated economic organizations, between level I and level II and between the central budget and the local budgets; the money that is advanced to the sectors to make purchases at high prices must be returned to the bank through the cash earned by sectors selling goods at high prices. The finance sector must regulate the receipts and expenditures of the sectors in the process of purchasing products and selling products at high prices and must promptly use the increased revenues resulting from sales at high prices to compensate for the increased expenditures resulting from purchases at high prices; the budget must not be used to compensate for losses or, at the very least, must only be used to compensate for very small losses.

We must improve the management of the grain, agricultural product, and food product market in keeping with the spirit of the resolutions and decisions of the Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers. The people's committees of the various provinces and municipalities must mobilize the forces of the concerned sectors, especially of the commerce, tax affairs and public security sectors, and rely upon basic level governments and the mass organizations to provide management on the basic level, thereby insuring that we expose, for the purpose of promptly punishing, speculators and hoarders and prevent private merchants from controlling purchasing in key purchasing areas of the state in order to raise prices and compete for products with the state and insuring that producers, once they have fulfilled their tax obligation and their obligation to sell products to the state, are free to circulate the remaining products, sell additional products to the state

or directly sell their products to consumers on the local market; as regards miscellaneous agricultural products that are not purchased exclusively by the state, the people, including merchants, shall have the permission to freely circulate these products.

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## AGRICULTURE

### FINNISH ENGINEER: PROBLEMS AT BAI BANG ARE EASING

Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 8 Jun 81 p 8

[Article by Bjorn Sundell]

[Text] Ten Vietnamese forest engineers are currently in Finland to familiarize themselves with Finland's forestry and forest industry. This is one stage in the contribution by the Finnish consulting firm of Jaakko Poyry to the much-discussed Swedish development project at Bai Bang in Vietnam. Together with a number of Swedish firms, Poyry's engineering department has been trying for just over a year to put the Bai Bang Project on the right track. As late as a few years ago, the project seemed to be going quite badly.

There was a time when the developing-country project at Bai Bang in Vietnam was something of a dirty word in the ears of many Swedes. It was said that the machinery for the mill--some of it from Finland--was rusting in the open air, that costs were completely out of control, and that the Swedish papermill complex was becoming something of a fiasco.

That was more or less the tune being played when Scanmanagement, a Swedish-Finnish enterprise headed by the Jaakko Poyry Corporation, assumed management of the papermill complex in 1980. Scanmanagement was to take over from the WP [expansion unknown] System Corporation, which seemingly had lost control of the situation.

Now, a year later, Scanmanagement's managing director Jouko Virta says that things are looking bright for the Bai Bang Project. Cost development is under control, the schedule for the project is being adhered to, and the whole thing is going to turn out well. On the whole, he feels that the criticism of Bai Bang has been exaggerated. When it is completely finished, the papermill will be of great benefit to the Vietnamese, and what is more, it is a good example of Swedish-Finnish cooperation.

#### Will Produce 55,000 Tons of Paper

Jaakko Poyry was in fact connected with the Bai Bang Project as far back as the start of the 1970's. At that time, the Finnish consulting firm prepared the preliminary projection and estimated the cost of the project at 700 million markkaa. After that, Poyry had no further connection with the project.

SIDA [Swedish International Development Authority], which is Sweden's agency for aid to developing countries, was the financing organization and principal, and the intention was to give Vietnam (actually North Vietnam at the time) a forest industry complex that would be self-sufficient--that is, it would produce pulp from trees in the area, and that pulp would then be used to produce 55,000 tons of fine paper per year.

The WP System Corporation took chief responsibility for the project, and construction began. Toward the end of the 1970's, increasingly critical reports about the Bai Bang Project began to circulate publicly.

Scanmanagement's Jouko Virta says: "The mistake, probably, was that in the beginning, the importance of forestry know-how was not realized. The WP System Corporation was a construction firm with experience in building industrial plants and power stations, but it was not a forestry firm. And when the work at Bai Bang had not progressed very far as late as the mid-1970's, SIDA decided to try to get the Swedish forest industry involved.

"The whole thing ended with management of the Bai Bang Project being taken over by Scanmanagement, in which Jaakko Poyry is the lead firm and cooperates with Sweden's Southern Forest Owners Association, CELPAP [expansion unknown] Corporation, and Swedish Steam Users Association.

"The project was divided into two phases. The first phase included the papermill and a power plant, and it was beginning to approach its conclusion when we took over. The second phase comprises the pulpmill, and there the work had just started.

"We now expect that the second phase will also be completed by the end of next year. And we will stay within the cost limit set by the Swedish Government: 1.6 billion kronor (1.4 billion markkaa)."

#### Management Training

The Bai Bang Project also includes development of the Vietnamese operations organization, and that is why the 10 Vietnamese are now here in Finland. It is they who will manage the forest industry complex in the future.

The transfer of responsibility for running an industrial plant from the foreign partner to local people is a difficult and time-consuming process.

Managing director Virta says: "Our contract with SIDA runs for another 2 years, but that is not long enough. Phasing out is a slow process, and what is needed is a situation of mutual trust between the local partner and the foreign partner. It is necessary to create an atmosphere of daily contact between the partners at all levels."

In order to establish that contact and a permanent exchange of information, all key positions at the complex are occupied by one foreign--often Swedish--representative and one Vietnamese. The chief foresters at the plant with main responsibility for supplies of raw materials--to mention one example--are Jonas Enander of Sweden and Duong Thanh Mau. Mau and his nine colleagues have become familiar with afforestation and forestry as well as the forest industry on a small scale.

But the main reason why the Vietnamese are now in Finland is that they want to become familiar with the floating of log rafts. The Bai Bang mill, which is located 200 kilometers from the coast, requires wood, and part of it must be transported from forests a long distance from the mill. An important means of getting it to the mill will be a river that flows nearby. Log floating is scarcely practiced at all any more in Sweden, and that is why they came to Finland.

### Exaggerated Criticism

Like Jouko Virta, Jonas Enander feels that the criticism of the Bai Bang Project is exaggerated.

Enander says: "When the mill complex is completed, it will have a considerable effect on employment: 15,000 Vietnamese will have jobs in the forest supplying the timber. Moreover, we are building 150 kilometers of road every year. The Vietnamese themselves are investing heavily in the project: they are planting 9,000 hectares of new forest every year. Those replantings will have a positive effect on the environment, because lumbering is now replacing burnbeating in many places, and this will reduce erosion of the land.

"It looks as though the criticism is based on political rather than objective arguments."

Managing director Jouko Virta also rejects assertions that Bai Bang is an unsuccessful project. He admits that some mistakes were made. Performance was not as successful in the beginning as it was expected to be.

Virta says: "But then, this is also the most difficult project I have ever been involved in during my 10 years of experience in the industry."

### Cooperation

"By now we are sure that the facility will be ready before the end of 1982. The project is a good example of practical Nordic cooperation that goes beyond hollow words and public statements on the political level."

At the moment, 325 foreigners of 20 nationalities are working at Bai Bang. Most of the foreigners are Swedes, but about 20 Finns are also there. When the complex is completed, the foreign personnel will be reduced in an orderly manner. From 30 to 40 foreigners will be needed during the first few years of operation to help keep the mill running.

"It is possible that we will not be able to maintain rated production right at first. There are many problems. A railway leads to the mill, but Vietnam lacks sufficient railroad car capacity, and it may happen that we will not get enough coal at the mill, to mention one example.

"And of course, problems may arise when the routines and ways of doing things are transferred from Westerners to people of another culture. The routines must be adapted to local conditions. We must make an effort to look at our work from a Vietnamese point of view and to forget, to some extent, our own Western ways of seeing things."



Jouko Virta adds, with a sparkle in his eye: "That is not always so easy to do. We all remember the problems the Japanese had when they tried to transfer their technology to the VALCO [expansion unknown] picture tube firm in Finland. Language problems and cultural differences play a considerable role. The Japanese had a number of problems with us Finns, and we have a number of problems with the Vietnamese. I think that so far, we have done quite well in solving many of the problems in Vietnam."

Let us hope it continues, so that the final result in Bai Bang will be more successful than the VALCO experiment was.

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## AGRICULTURE

### FISHING OPERATIONS REORGANIZED IN HO CHI MINH CITY

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 3 Dec 80 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Thi Van: "Can the City's Marine Products Sector Supply 15,000 Tons of Fish in 1981?"]

[Text] Fish are one of the 10 products which the city's party organisation congress expressed the determination to successfully supply to cadres, manual workers, civil servants and their dependents in 1981.

If each cadre and manual worker is supplied with 1 kilogram per month and each dependent receives one-half kilogram per month, the city must have supply of 1,250 tons of fish per month.

Many persons have said: "I was excited when I heard the resolution but can it be implemented?" Many persons have expressed skepticism.

#### No Improvement Until the End of the Year

I met with Nguyen Van Dao and Vo Hoang Thach, deputy directors of the Marine Products Service, in the hope that they could answer the difficult question posed above. However, I began with a question that was not difficult:

"What is the marine products sector's situation?"

Dao went directly to the heart of the matter:

"Miss! The committee assigned us a plan for 1980 requiring 4,000 tons; during the first 9 months of the year, we have only caught 2,300 tons, or 57 percent of our plan quota."

This figure was far from their requirement but why were these comrades expressing such enthusiasm? This caused me to think.

"We are conducting a '1,400 tons of fish in the 4th quarter campaign,'" he continued. "In October and the first half of November, we caught more than 700 tons. By the end of November, we plan to catch a total of 1,000 tons. In December, barring unforeseen developments, it is very likely that we will complete our plan."

"If you only caught 2,300 tons during the first 9 months of the year, how can you increase your catch to 1,400 tons during the final 3 months of the year?" This was my thinking, thinking I did not express. However, Dao immediately said:

"We assessed the situation to determine why the catch was so low during the first 9 months of the year. The answer was found in repair work. Repair work was being performed too slowly! Our boats are old and lie in port for an entire month after every trip to sea, so, how could we catch any fish!"

"Thus, what did you do?"

"We have improved operations at sea and must now improve operations on the shore and coordinate and closely link the two operations through the 'three interests.'"

"In the past, when a boat reached shore the crew considered its responsibility to have been fulfilled. The repair shop formulated a plan to make the necessary repairs and the crew calculated supply needs and forwarded a list of their needs to the supply office. There, things slowed down. When inquiring about their supplies 3 or 4 days later, they were told that hooks and poles were available but not "chai bot" or oil, or vice versa.

Now, whenever a boat is put into drydock, a person representing party A (either the boat captain, the first mate or its mechanic) stays with the boat while it is being repaired. When the boat is about to return to port, party A must draw up a plan stating what repairs must be made and how many supplies must be stocked. On the shore, the repair shop, party B, must coordinate with the supply enterprise to calculate specific needs: which supplies must be purchased, where will they be purchased and who will go purchase them? Each job is scheduled for a specific hour on a specific day. Each job is performed by an individual section or person under a contract with appended award and bonus quotas. As a result, boat repair time has been reduced from 20 to 30 days to only 7 days (medium and minor repair). They have also reduced the loading of fuel and ice by 2 days to the 5th day of repair work, when repairs are nearly complete. Boats are now rapidly repaired and sent back to sea."

In addition, he said:

"To insure smooth operations, we have established many groups of boats; each group consists of four boats so that they can support one another. For example, Chien Thang 6 and Chien Thang 7, two boats that can complete their plans 5 days ahead of schedule, will be grouped with Chien Thang 8 and Quoc Doanh 1 which, due to the circumstances of repair work, will go to sea a few days late. The slogan of the boat groups is: 'Go to sea together, return together and work together to achieve the necessary output and maintain the safety of boats and ships.' One skilled mechanic will be assigned to each boat group to promptly deal with unexpected developments at sea. From the board of directors of the service, Chin Thung, a deputy director, will accompany a group of boats to provide guidance on the fishing grounds."

I thought: here are persons familiar with fighting who have returned to their combat position; a new and no less complex fight has begun.

#### Personnel Are the Decisive Factor

Many persons have said: "The people of Con Dao work very well but why is our city's marine products sector encountering so many acute difficulties?"

I also wanted to know why. Thach, a deputy director of the service and its party committee secretary, politely said:

"In March 1980, we twice sent groups to study the experiences of the Con Dao fishing fleet. The good aspects of Con Dao are: it employs a good method of distribution and cares for the lives of workers well, especially by upholding the right of collective ownership of workers well. The results are very high productivity and a very high fish catch.

Reviewing ourselves, we see that we must bring about a change on each ship, primarily a change on the part of each person. In the past, we had the saying: 'Forestry first, fishing second'; the persons in the forest 'at sea' are very fierce. There is only 'us' in the forest at sea. It will not be easy to change them."

These two comrades in charge, who were once seamen themselves, gave me a rather unique insight into a typical "home from the sea" scene:

"When the boats reach port, everyone jumps ashore and they go off together to carouse, to provoke fights and flirt with women. They all need a haircut and a shave. When the fish are unloaded, anyone who wants some takes some (the birds in the air and the fish in the sea belong to everyone).

Hundreds of families and barkeepers around the port are ready to 'skin' them. When they go back to sea and can no longer see land, they begin to act as they please. Thus, when they go back to sea, it is unavoidable that some persons use the ships and fuel of the state to do some 'triangle' trading: goods from the city are taken to Rach Gia and sold, rice from Rach Gia is taken to Con and sold and fish sauce from Con is taken to the city and sold. They catch only a few fish but many persons do not care. They earn their livings by engaging in trade or selling the fuel and the good fish of the state on the outside, thereby keeping themselves in good health and earning much money. The exploiting classes and the old system sullied them and created negative phenomena among them."

The two comrades stated: "They are still very poor workers. (they emphasized this fact). The majority of their families live closely together along alleys that lack lighting and running water. We must display love of them and thoroughly involve ourselves in remodeling them before the new man will emerge among them. When they have given in, they will be the masters."



This method of viewing persons is very correct. They have travelled to the alleyways to gain an understanding of these persons. When incidents have occurred in the middle of the night, they have been there. They listen, analyze and speak in a manner that conforms with both reason and sentiment. Therefore, people feel free to stand up at a conference, stick out their chest and loudly state what is on their mind.

"You people look down on us, we fishermen have followed you and followed our fathers to the sea for generations to this very day; when would I ever abandon the revolution? Nothing makes you happy!"

They speak in a unpretentious but sincere manner. There is much about which the leaders of the sector must think! They must think about both the immediate future and the long-range future.

Now, when fishermen return from the sea they have a club in which to view films and performances, a club at which they can drink beer and eat and a dining hall for 200 persons; they are given 5 kilograms of fish to take home and 300 grams of fish to eat each day at the wharf. Although they only have two sheet metal buildings that are very hot and have no fans, they do have places at which to relax and enjoy entertainment. The bars that once specialised in exploiting them, in living as parasites upon them have been eliminated.

In the past, whenever they returned from the sea, they gave the port the job of unloading and weighing the fish they had caught. Now, the seamen themselves unload and weigh their fish, thus preventing anyone from pilfering their fish and earning additional money by unloading their catch. On this basis, they have calculated how to achieve the highest possible productivity. The first fish to be caught after ships leave port are dried and salted; the next fish that are caught are frozen in ice and, finally, poor quality fish are salted to be made into fish meal. The fish are arranged in order and in layers so that they can be easily unloaded when arriving in port. As soon as the fish have been unloaded, workpoints are awarded and the seamen offer their observations and constructive opinions concerning one another. The enterprise has the catch tallied and pays them immediately after each trip instead of delaying their payment as was the practice previously.

Once a month, they attend a class in politics. Although they are not well versed in politics, they do have an understanding of the most elementary facts concerning their working class, their occupation, current events and the country.

Their families have been invited to meetings by the enterprise and assigned the task of encouraging their husbands and sons to work well. In the past, fishermen squandered their wages on drinking and having a good time; now, on each payday, the enterprise directly delivers 50 to 70 percent of their wages to their families. The wives and children of fishermen are very appreciative of this action by the enterprise. The fishermen themselves are also gradually making progress.

At present, each ship has a ship's political officer; although these political officers are still inexperienced and are not yet performing propaganda work to develop the party, they have remolded some of the thinking of fishermen.



"Our people are improving; this is encouraging and is the primary factor in insuring the implementation of the 1981 plan." These words were spoken by the party committee secretary.

How Do They Plan To Provide 15,000 Tons of Fish for 1981?

The comrades from the Marine Products Service informed us:

"To provide 15,000 tons of fish in 1981 in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the City Party Committee, the marine products sector must not only catch fish, but also increase the investments in raising and catching fish in the belt surrounding the city and in Duyen Hai and invest in development in the delta provinces."

They presented a specific plan:

"As regards the fishing fleet of the city, we have completed the repair of eight large hulls and requested large engines from the central level to install in them. In addition, we shall ask the upper level to transfer to us a number of vessels of friendly units that are not being utilized at full capacity or to allow us to use these vessels on a contract basis and share the catch. With the 43 vessels that are now in operation and the additional vessels that have been requested, the city's enterprise can provide from 7,000 to 8,000 tons of fish.

Duyen Hai District is a place that is rich in fish and has a plentiful supply of laborers skilled in fishing. In 1980, we invested 1.2 million dong there in fishing gear and nets, including 100 bottom nets that will be supplied later. As of September 1980, Duyen Hai had supplied to the city 2,900 tons of shrimp and fish; it is possible that it will end the year having supplied a total of 3,500 tons to the city. Therefore, in 1981, Duyen Hai must purchase from 4,000 to 5,000 tons. This is not to include the 13 state farms that raise shrimp, which can supply from 3 to 5 tons of shrimp per month."

"Sau Quang, a deputy director of the Marine Products Service, has gone to work with the standing committee of the Duyen Hai District Party Committee in order to strengthen the guidance of this effort."

"As regards the other provinces, we have signed a contract with Dong Thap under which we have sent five large sampans, 2 tons of netting and 10,000 liters of diesel fuel to the province and are directly working with the locality in production; we plan to purchase 3,000 tons of 'linh' fish and 400 tons of other types of fish. We plan to enter into the same type of arrangement with An Giang Province."

In addition, they said:

"Ships, diesel fuel and nets pose the greatest difficulties to us. For this reason, we must take steps to guard against an unfavorable situation; in 1981, the marine products sector must have 100 tons of shrimp and fish, 50 tons of shrimp cakes and 600,000 liters of fish sauce to export in order to purchase what it needs."

Listening to them, I felt glad, realizing that they had developed a way to solve their problems. However, I do think that they must still overcome many more problems before reaching their objective. For people to advance, they must follow a straight path. As regards the weather, typhoons impede man's efforts. Many negative phenomena within the sector have not been eliminated. However, I do see some positive developments: the marine products sector is changing itself, its collective of leadership cadres is highly determined and its plan is relatively specific. For this reason, 15,000 tons of fish for 1981 no longer seems like an impossible figure! I have confidence that they will achieve their goal.

#### Looking Toward the Future

The secretary of the party committee said to me:

"We plan to ask the party and state to build a large port in the next 5 years and establish a 'fishing village' at the port for the families of seamen. At present, we have 5 hectares of land in the Huynh Dat area and as we acquire the capital over the next few years, we will gradually build this village. I hope you come visit it."

"Yes! I would like very much to visit you in the new 'fishing village,' the inhabitants of which will be persons who have become the masters of the sea and the masters of their own lives."

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## AGRICULTURE

### FARMERS SURVEYED ON PRODUCT CONTRACTING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 May 81 p 2

[Article by Duc Uy, Candidate in Psychology: "The Psychology of the Collective Farmer, Before and After Product Contracting"]

[Text] Little Picture of a Broad Panorama

The little lively and multicolored picture which is part of a broad panorama of the socialist countryside as it goes into product contracting, which we attempt to sketch in the present article, is the result of social psychology investigations carried out by the educational psychology department of the Hanoi School of Pedagogy No 1 during last March and April. The investigations were carried out on the basis of a sample of 100 cooperative members and their families who belong to the Dong Van Cooperative, Vinh Lac District, Vinh Phu Province. The cooperative has a population of 5750 belonging to 1342 families with 476 hectares of cultivated land. The value of fixed assets comes to 731,033 dong, the total production value to 1,803,139.80 dong, and the total labor force to 1862 persons. The food production comes to 1481.67 tons. Dong Van Cooperative belongs in a rice producing area and for many years was a low level cooperative, only in 1979 did it get consolidated to become a progressive coop. During the main crop of 1980 the cooperative introduced product contracting in 6 basic production teams among which figures team number 4 which we investigated. As of now, product contracting has been expanded to the entire cooperative. The two teams containing 100 families which we investigated are broken into one team which had started product contracting since last year, and one which just started this year during the fifth-month rice crop. We made the choice of these two teams because it is easier that way to compare the transformations in the material and spiritual life of the farmer after he has accepted to contract out fields.

#### It Is "Our" Field Yet It Is Not Private Property

The first question we put to the farmers was: Are you feeling good to contract your field like this? Out of 100 answers only 2 said that they did not like the contract system. But liking or disliking does not point out to the nature of the question. Why do they like it? Which are the objective causes which make almost all the laborers feel enthusiastic about this contracting system?

When the next question, What are the advantages you found in the new contracting system as compared to the old ways?, was asked, one can see more clearly the reasons behind the enthusiasm of the laborers:

77 percent listed "working harder, more responsibly and enthusiastically" as the result of the new system.  
 66 percent listed "one is more master of one's time" as an advantage.  
 32 percent listed "full utilization of manpower."  
 26 percent listed "clear remuneration for work put in, no confusion."  
 19 percent listed "one knows ahead of time what one is expected to put in and the resulting remuneration."  
 23 percent listed "quick harvest and avoiding of waste."  
 16 percent listed "work for both large and small families."  
 30 percent listed "higher productivity."  
 21 percent listed "full utilization of fertilizer sources."  
 20 percent listed "thrifty use of land."

The most outstanding answer is given as "working harder, more responsibly and enthusiastically," a fact mentioned by 77 percent of the respondents. In our opinion, besides the reasons which have been analyzed in some detail in our publications and on the radio, there is in reality another social psychological cause, and that is that in the new contract system both spiritual concern and material investment are now linked together. Gone is now the obsession and image of the 5-percent land as they work on the cooperative land. In Dong Van as in many other localities it becomes impossible to differentiate the two kinds of land.

From the point of human psychology, if in the old contracting system the laborer is constantly "split up, divided" in his ideological struggle (Where shall I invest my labor and material means?) in the new system this conflict has ceased altogether. The factor of industry and personal effort is an especially important factor in an essentially manual agricultural context although this too has its limitations. Industry and personal effort means that the present labor and past labor have to be well articulated, hence it is impossible to make manual labor an absolute factor. One of the strengths of the new contracting system is that it can fully exploit the potential of the laborer, to adopt the new contracting system means to revive and bring to a new high the image of "the good farmer" and of "the old peasant knowing his fields." This is the present situation. Looking towards the future, it is clear that the factor of past labor with its intensive cultivation pattern will more and more be the predominant pattern as compared with the investment of current labor in production. This will prove all the more that the role of the scientific and technological revolution must be the key in agricultural production right after the institution of product contracting in spite of the fact that in a number of localities it has been felt that it is quite difficult to introduce scientific and technological advances to the countryside.

The second psychological reason motivating our farmers is that they feel free and more "master of their time." "It used to be," some say, "that once you heard the cooperative triangle you had to run at once to the fields; but now sometimes you may feel tired or have shopping to do, or it may be that one's brother has a son about to go into the army, one can stay at home and make up for it the next day. Here there are two aspects to the question. One is that the new contract system satisfies one of the essential necessities of the country people which is to live in harmony with nature and its rhythms. The other aspect is that one can foresee that in the not very far future the mechanization of agriculture and its industrialization will not allow for the lackadaisical, laid back and timewise



unbusinesslike manner of doing things today; in other words, it will be hard to build the industrial lifestyle. It is "our field" and yet it is not private property, it is both the result and the cause of our ideological awakening in the last few decades ever since we followed the Party. This ideological commitment to the land which is nonetheless not private property is also a motivation for further production.

Eighteen percent believe that there is more leisure in the new contracting system. A number of results have been garnered to show that with this new contracting system one can economize on labor but there will be relatively great waste if there is no reorganization and division of labor. In the new system the men have more leisure than the women. They only have to work hard when it is time to plow, to do irrigation work, to fight floods and storms; as for the daily work it is now mainly left on the shoulders of the women and the children who essentially are industrious already. This is especially true of the middle-aged women. If there is no education, readjustment and reorganization of labor, then with the new system the inequality between the two sexes not only will remain but will even worsen, at least as far as the laboring aspect is concerned.

Another cause of the enthusiasm felt by the masses towards the new contracting system is that it has created a definite situation of social equality owing to the contracting of fields based on the number of laboring people in each family, which at least will form a certain equality, albeit at the minimal level, in the living standard of the local populations, of the great majority of citizens in the countryside. That we have been able to overcome, although not exactly to eradicate, the vice known as "putting in little work but being liberal with points" is one of the factors found encouraging by the average laborer. This is because in the past, one person may work very hard in the same cooperative and get only 100 points per season whereas others may get 500 points and others still up to 1000 points. It goes without saying that those receiving high points as compared to those directly engaged in production, such as carpenters, brick and tile makers, transportation workers, irrigation specialists, etc. necessarily must have their remuneration based upon their professionalism, skill, their degree of technical knowledge, etc. but nonetheless the income level of the laborers cannot simply be leveled, made totally egalitarian. The question becomes even more noticeable when the people accumulating high points are paid in paddy, which is felt like gold in the barter trade of the small peasantry.

In the old contracting system characterized by "putting in little work but being liberal with the points," the number of points on which is based the income level of each person and his family is an unstable number, if nothing else because it is extremely difficult to assign points to a job. For instance, paddy may be drying when a shower comes; immediately the team leader "is liberal with the points" so that the paddy get stored away quick, thus whoever is near the drying court or one who knows or is a relative of the team leader--which is a factor of special importance in the countryside--immediately gets to "benefit." Furthermore, the points assigned to storing paddy away are arbitrarily determined without any specified guidelines, such as how many points one would get if one manages to store away one hundred kilograms of paddy at such and such a distance in meters away from a warehouse. Thus, one can see to which extent the system of "putting in little work but being liberal with points" was damaging socially and economically. No wonder that the farmers have thought up the expressions "paper paddy" and



"paper points" to describe working days of such poor value that they cannot feel enthusiastic in production, waiting anxiously for the day when the accountants come to calculate the distribution plans. This does not mean that the new contracting system has helped solve the problem of "putting in little work and being liberal with points," especially in the case of those who work indirectly in the various fields and participate in other common endeavors, in which case unless one makes careful calculations to product-contract in detailed and concrete fashion one is bound to be unrestrained in assigning points, which will then negatively bear on the value of workdays put in by the contracting farmers.

Finally, with this system of relatively equitable contracting based on the number of laborers in each family like this, the number of laboring hands would not be too uneven, with 4 laborers at most and 1 laborer at the least, and 2 laborers on the average accepting to contract in each family. The stabilization of acreage contracted, hence the stabilization of the basic living standard, the stabilization of the level of taxes to be handed to the cooperative, which increases the stabilization of the laborers' psychology, ideology and investments, cannot but make them feel good. Finally, one must also add that with the new system of product contracting the Party cadres and members in the countryside rebecome laborers in the sense that, despite their ranks as village cadres or team leaders, they are still members of contracting families. They also have to plow, to pick up seedlings, to harvest, and through these activities are forced to be closer to the people. It is not known how it is elsewhere but in Dong Van, before this contracting system, there were at the most two or three Party members who ever had to plough. These comrades were sometimes "isolated" because they were teased by other cooperative members with such questions as, "A Party member who ploughs?" There was an erroneous viewpoint that suggested that once one is a Party member or cadre one must be a leadership figure attending meetings only, thus creating in a number of Party cadres and members the idea that they should be free from production cares. The question is not that every Party member must participate in field work irrespective of the quantitative and qualitative dimensions of the local Party organization; but at least with the new labor organization and distribution patterns, the fact that Party members participate in production even though only in a "contributive" fashion is enough to have a certain effect since there is the tendency, as everybody knows, in the last several years of people in the countryside to be freed from production on a rather widespread scale in the case of a number of cadres, most particularly those associated with the links of direct production, with cultivation teams (basic teams), which has a negative bearing on the economic leadership at the base unit level.

#### To Act As Owner Is To Take Real Good Care of Contract Fields

"In your opinion, now that everything has been contracted out, what constitutes acting as owner of the land?"

Answers:

Take real good care of the contract fields	66 percent
To fulfill correctly the contract provisions and to have good accounts with the cooperative and the state	52 percent
It's up to us to take care of all the links, without reliance on others	27 percent
Everything is open and above board	20 percent
Unclear	10 percent

The best and most efficient way of being owner of the land, in the present situation of ideological awareness and of technical equipment, is to take real good care in a self-motivated manner the land that one contracts so as to achieve the contract level and straighten all the accounts with the cooperative and with the state. The answer thus given possibly reflects in part the changes in the psychology of farmers as they go into product contracting.

The above sketch, despite its incompleteness and the failure to describe its full richness, will nonetheless contribute to making it more vivid the total panorama of the socialist countryside as it stands in front of new prospects and questions which the richest imagination remains unable to picture and grasp fully.

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## LIGHT INDUSTRY

### STOP USING SUGAR CANE FOR LIQUOR MAKING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 May 81 p 3

[Readers' Opinions column by Nguyen Luong Trong, Ministry of Food Industries:  
"Stop the Distribution of Sugar Cane for Liquor Making"]

[Text] In the last few years many sugar mills have had difficulties securing raw materials. One important reason for this situation is that in many localities there is still lax management leading to the cooperatives arbitrarily retaining sugar cane for distribution to the peasants for liquor making. In the district of Vinh Lac, besides a number of cooperatives which are always on time in handing over the produce, guaranteeing both quality and quantity, such as Hong Chau, Phu Tinh, Phu Da, etc. there are a number of others which let the peasants use the sugar cane for liquor making or sell into the free market at a high price. In these cooperatives the peasants make a large profit because a ton of sugar cane can produce from 120 to 180 liters of liquor, equivalent to a receipt of around 2000 dong. Some cooperatives receive an excessive amount of nitrogenous fertilizer in the tens of tons (the same with food) as compared to the amount of sugar cane they hand in, which is equivalent to hundreds of thousands of dong that they receive in excess. Moreover, with the amount of sugar cane that they retain to distribute to their members so that they can brew liquor and sell it they can turn a profit that is four times, five times that much. This is clearly a phenomenon contrary to the spirit of the three interests. Last year, some cooperatives openly distributed their sugar cane and the local authorities did not show determination in stopping it; the situation has gone worse this year and that bad phenomenon has spread to a number of other cooperatives. In some cooperatives the members not only take both tops and roots of the sugar cane plants, they even steal the tops that had just been planted in order to press for juice! In the face of such a negative development the district of Vinh Lac has met several times and issued concrete directives but these remain dead letters.

In our opinion, the requirement of the two-way economic contract is that the supply of capital goods must be in line with the amount of products collected in return, thus the handing over of products must be concretely and closely handled.

To insure that the sugar mills have enough raw materials to work with, it is hereby suggested that the responsible organs of Vinh Phu Province and Vinh Lac District, in particular, solve well the following links: they must be determined to put an end to the situation of sugar cane being retained for distribution to the cooperative members for liquor making while there is resistance to handing

over the products to the state in accordance with the economic agreements that have been signed. They must provide close monitoring of the handing over process, of the transportation process and implement well a number of policies regarding prices. They must provide enough food to the sugar cane producing areas so that the cooperative members feel secure in producing and handing over the produce. Moreover, there should be a material incentive regime in order to award those high-productivity sugar cane producing units which overfulfill their plan quotas.

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